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Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services

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Organizational matters

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2012

(1 to 3 February 2012, New York)

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2012/1
Review of UNDP programming arrangements, 2008-2013

The Executive Board

1. *Recalls* decision 2010/3 which extended the programming arrangements by two years to cover the period 2008-2013, in line with the strategic plan extension;

2. *Takes note of* the report on the second review of the programming arrangements, 2008-2013 (DP/2012/3), and the three key concurrent initiatives that inform and are integrally linked to it: the new strategic plan; the integrated budget; and the agenda for organizational change;

3. *Reaffirms* the principles of eligibility of all recipient countries on the basis of the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations development system, and of the capacity to respond to the needs of all recipient countries in accordance with their own development priorities; and, in this context, recognizes the principles of the United Nations Development Programme activities, which include progressivity, impartiality, transparency and predictability of flow of resources for all recipient countries, as reflected in decision 2007/33;

4. *Agrees* with the overarching assumptions made by UNDP in paragraph 12(b) and 12(c) of document DP/2012/3 that a new TRAC 1 calculation methodology should continue to include a predictability parameter to ensure a smooth transition from the current programming period to the next, and that a new TRAC 1 calculation methodology should continue to include the same percentage allocation ranges as in the present (2008-2013) programming arrangements;

5. *Also agrees* with the overarching assumption that the UNDP presence should be based upon differentiated developmental needs of countries and a no one-size-fits-all approach in order to ensure efficient and effective response to national development priorities;

6. *Requests* UNDP to submit to the Executive Board, at its second regular session 2012, a further elaboration of global strategic presence, including physical presence in programme countries, bearing in mind the need for efficiency and effectiveness, in line with the discussions on the new strategic plan;

7. *Also requests* UNDP to provide to the Executive Board, at its second regular session 2012, relevant information explaining the allocation to the activities funded under the proposed programming arrangements other than TRAC 1, 2 and 3, with this information based on reviews, evaluations and analyses that capture the performance and effectiveness of these activities, as well as lessons learned and recommendations for improvement;

8. *Takes note of* the proposal to establish a contingency fund, and requests UNDP to submit to the Executive Board, at its second regular session 2012, further elaboration of this fund's function and general allocation figure;

9. *Decides* to consider the possible inclusion of the United Nations Capital Development Fund in the programming arrangements in the context of the adoption of the draft integrated budget, 2014-2015, taking into consideration the priorities of the strategic plan, 2014-2017, and additional information provided on the financial and legal implications of the proposed inclusion;

10. *Requests* UNDP to demonstrate in the mock-up integrated budget how resources distributed through different allocation mechanisms will link to the expected outcomes of the strategic plan;

11. *Also requests* UNDP to provide further analysis and advice with respect to the options for the TRAC 1 eligibility criteria and models for the TRAC 1 allocation criteria outlined in document DP/2012/3, taking into consideration the views expressed by Member States in this regard, with a view to the Executive Board taking a decision on new programming arrangements at its second regular session 2012.

3 February 2012

2012/2

Oral report of the Administrator on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy and action plan

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the oral report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy in 2011, as requested in decision 2006/3;

2. *Recognizes* the importance of mainstreaming gender equality as reflected in General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and the UNDP strategic plan, 2008-2013;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts of UNDP in implementing the gender equality strategy in 2011 and achieving concrete gender equality development and institutional results;

4. *Welcomes* the work of the Gender Steering and Implementation Committee as a clear sign of top management commitment to gender equality and as a means of improving accountability in the fields of gender mainstreaming and equality, and urges UNDP to continue to ensure that management staff at all levels are committed to and accountable for implementing the gender strategy;

5. *Encourages* UNDP to strengthen its partnership with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and to work closely with UN-Women to advance gender equality in programmes and policy on the basis of complementary and synergetic relationships, and to work collaboratively as part of United Nations country teams;

6. *Takes note of* the results of the gender marker and encourages UNDP to continue to strengthen the application of this tool and to fully integrate it in its systems, and welcomes the efforts of UNDP to share the gender marker with other United Nations organizations, especially the UN-Women, as a way to enhance collaboration and improve gender accountability within the United Nations system;

7. *Notes with concern* the decrease in UNDP expenditures that make significant or principal contributions to gender equality, and requests UNDP to strengthen capacity for gender mainstreaming, and to increase its investments in gender equality within the context of the new strategic plan process and the overall UNDP agenda for organizational change;

8. *Requests* that the final midterm review document on the implementation of the gender equality strategy be shared with the Executive Board;

9. *Requests* UNDP to mainstream gender equality perspectives in the preparation of the strategic plan, 2014-2017, taking into account lessons learned from the implementation of the current gender equality strategy, and further requests UNDP to take the necessary steps to develop, in a timely manner, a new gender equality strategy in line with priorities of the next UNDP strategic plan, 2014-2017, and to consult the Executive Board on this matter;

10. *Recalls* the request of the Executive Board to identify further measures, including through evaluating the position and mandate of the gender team at the global and regional levels, to raise the profile of the UNDP gender strategy and increase the attention given to its implementation, and requests that, as part of the annual report in June 2012, the Administrator report on concrete measures taken to implement this request;

11. *Reiterates* its request to the Administrator to provide annually, for the remainder of the period of the UNDP strategic plan, an oral report to the Executive Board, at its first regular session, on the implementation of the gender equality strategy, as set forth in DP/2005/7, and requests that a written background paper be made available to the Board in advance of the first regular session 2013.

3 February 2012

2012/3
UNFPA institutional budget estimates for 2012-2013

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the results and resource requirements in the UNFPA institutional budget estimates for 2012-2013, as contained in document DP/FPA/2012/1;

2. *Also takes note of* the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the institutional budget estimates for 2012-2013 (DP/FPA/2012/2);

3. *Approves* the presentation of activities and associated costs reflected in document DP/FPA/2012/1, which are aligned with the classifications of activities and associated costs, the results-based budgeting approach and the key budget tables approved in decisions 2010/32 and 2011/10;

4. *Approves* gross resources in the amount of $292.2 million, representing the total institutional budget, 2012-2013, and notes that the estimated net resources total $245.0 million;

5. *Resolves* that the appropriated amount be used to achieve the management results framework outputs of the UNFPA strategic plan, in accordance with decision 2011/39;

6. *Welcomes* the reductions in management costs and the rising proportion of funds available for programme implementation and encourages UNFPA to continue in the same direction without negatively affecting the effective delivery of programmes;

7. *Recalls* Executive Board decisions 2011/9 and 2011/22 and welcomes UNFPA efforts to further strengthen financial management and monitoring at headquarters and field levels, especially with regard to the national execution modality, and

encourages UNFPA to further strengthen financial and administrative oversight at all levels;

8. *Welcomes* UNFPA efforts to strengthen field offices and, in that regard, encourages UNFPA to continue to reduce vacancy rates;

9. *Encourages* UNFPA to review the current cost recovery rates and methodology together with UNDP and UNICEF at the second regular session 2012, in order to determine future harmonized and transparent rates to be included in the integrated budget, 2014-2015;

10. *Recalls* decision 2007/43 approving the organizational structure of UNFPA, as contained in document DP/FPA/2007/16 and its corrigendum (DP/FPA/2007/16/Corr.1);

11. *Approves* the conversion of the existing subregional office in Dakar, Senegal, into the Central and West Africa Regional Office, and the merger of the existing subregional and regional offices in Johannesburg, South Africa, into the South and East Africa Regional Office, effective 2013, and, in this context, looks forward to receiving the outcomes of the evaluation of the regionalization process;

12. *Endorses* the proposal of the Executive Director, similar to that of decision 2008/6, to grant him exceptional authority during 2012-2013 to access up to an additional $2.7 million in regular resources for security measures. UNFPA will limit the use of those funds to new and emerging security mandates, as defined by the directives of the United Nations Department of Safety and Security, and will report to the Executive Board on the use of those funds in its annual review of the financial situation.

3 February 2012

2012/4
Revision of the UNFPA financial regulations and rules

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the report on the revision of the UNFPA financial regulations and rules (DP/FPA/2012/3) and appreciates the invitation to an ongoing dialogue on the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

2. *Also takes note of* the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the revision of the UNFPA financial regulations and rules (DP/FPA/2012/2);

3. *Approves* the revisions to the UNFPA financial regulations and takes note of the changes to the financial rules contained therein.

3 February 2012

2012/5
Revision of the UNOPS financial regulations and rules

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the proposed revision of the UNOPS Financial Regulations and Rules (DP/OPS/2012/1) and its annexes and of the Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the revision of the UNOPS Financial Regulations and Rules (DP/OPS/2012/2);

2. *Notes* also the comments presented by the Office of Legal Affairs in the annex to the document dated 24 January 2012, following a request by UNOPS, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Approves* the proposed amended Financial Regulations and Rules, to take effect on 1 January 2012, and requests UNOPS to take into full account, while reconciling, the comments and recommendations made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Office of Legal Affairs.

3 February 2012

2012/6
Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2008-2009

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2008-2009 (DP/2012/4, DP/FPA/2012/5 and DP/OPS/2012/3);

With respect to UNDP:

2. *Welcomes* the progress made by UNDP in addressing audit-related priorities in 2010-2011;

3. *Also welcomes* the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by UNDP in January 2012;

With respect to UNFPA:

4. *Welcomes* the actions taken by UNFPA and the further actions planned in implementing the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the 2008-2009 biennium;

5. *Also welcomes* the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by UNFPA in January 2012;

With respect to UNOPS:

6. *Recognizes* that, according to the assessment of UNOPS, it has implemented more than 80 per cent of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the biennium that ended 31 December 2009;

7. *Recognizes further* that in October 2011, the United Nations Board of Auditors validated the results from the UNOPS assessment during the Board of Auditors' preliminary review of UNOPS for the biennium that ended 31 December 2011.

3 February 2012

2012/7
Report of the Administrator of UNDP and of the Executive Directors of UNFPA and UNOPS to the Economic and Social Council

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the report of the Administrator of UNDP and of the Executive Directors of UNFPA and UNOPS to the Economic and Social Council (E/2012/5);

2. *Encourages* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue enhancing their integrated reporting, including by placing greater emphasis on challenges and trends;

3. *Decides* to transmit the above-mentioned report, along with the comments and guidance provided by delegations at the present session, to the Economic and Social Council.

3 February 2012

2012/8
Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2012

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its first regular session 2012, it:

Item 1
Organizational matters

Elected the following members of the Bureau for 2012:

President: H.E. Mr. Mårten Grunditz (Sweden)

Vice-President: Mr. Tariq Iziraren (Morocco)

Vice-President: H.E. Mr. Yusra Khan (Indonesia)

Vice-President: Ms. Candida Novak Hornakova (Czech Republic)

Vice-President: Mr. Eduardo Porretti (Argentina)

Adopted the agenda and workplan for its first regular session 2012 (DP/2012/L.1).

Adopted the report of the second regular session 2011 (DP/2012/1).

Adopted the annual workplan for 2012 (DP/2012/CRP.1/Rev.1).

Approved the tentative workplan for the annual session 2012.

Agreed to the following schedule for the remaining sessions of the Executive Board in 2012:

Annual session 2012: 25 to 29 June 2012 (Geneva)

Second regular session 2012: 4 to 10 September 2012.

UNDP segment

Item 2
Programming arrangements

Adopted decision 2012/1 on the review of UNDP programming arrangements, 2008-2013.

Item 3
Gender in UNDP

Adopted decision 2012/2 on the oral report of the Administrator on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy and action plan.

Item 4
Country programmes and related matters (UNDP)

Approved the following final country programme documents:

Africa: Cape Verde (common country programme), Central African Republic, Gambia, Malawi, Mozambique and South Sudan

Arab States: Algeria and Yemen

Asia and the Pacific: Islamic Republic of Iran, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Papua New Guinea (common country programme), Thailand and Viet Nam (common country programme)

Latin America and the Caribbean: Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Panama, Peru and Suriname

Took note of the request of the Administrator for authority to approve priority projects in Libya on a case-by-case basis.

UNFPA segment

Item 5
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Adopted decision 2012/3 on the UNFPA institutional budget estimates for 2012-2013.

Adopted decision 2012/4 on the revision of the UNFPA financial regulations and rules.

Took note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the institutional budget estimates for 2012-2013 and the revision of financial regulations and rules (DP/FPA/2012/2).

Item 6
Internal audit and oversight

Heard an oral presentation outlining the plan of action to address the recommendations in the report on internal audit and oversight activities in 2010 (decision 2011/22).

Item 7
Country programmes and related matters (UNFPA)

Approved the following final country programme documents:

Africa: Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Gambia, Malawi, Mozambique and South Sudan

Arab States: Algeria and Yemen

Asia and the Pacific: Iran (Islamic Republic of), Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Thailand and Viet Nam

Latin America and the Caribbean: Brazil, Dominican Republic, Panama and Peru

UNOPS segment

Item 8
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Adopted decision 2012/5 on the revision of the UNOPS financial regulations and rules.

Joint segment

Item 9
Recommendations of the Board of Auditors

Adopted decision 2012/6 on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2008-2009.

Item 10
Report to the Economic and Social Council

Adopted decision 2012/7 on the report of the Administrator of UNDP and of the Executive Directors of UNFPA and UNOPS to the Economic and Social Council.

Joint meeting

Held a joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP from 30 to 31 January 2012, which addressed the following topics: (a) middle-income countries: the role and presence of the United Nations for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals; (b) least developed countries: United Nations collaborative contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action;(c) making United Nations operational activity work for accelerated development: quadrennial comprehensive policy review ("delivering as one" and reporting on results); and (d) transition.

Also held the following informal briefings:

Informal consultation on the outcome of the UNDP workshop on experiences and practices with constructing results chains to address various development issues;

Joint UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS informal consultation on a plan for achieving full transparency with regard to the disclosure of internal audit reports;

Joint UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS informal presentation on the timetable for the review and analysis of harmonized cost-recovery rates;

Informal consultation on the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards in UNDP;

UNOPS briefing on preparations for Rio+20: infrastructure and sustainable development.

TENTATIVE WORK PLAN
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
ANNUAL SESSION 2012
(25 -29 June 2012, Geneva)

Day/Date	Time	Item	Subject
Monday, 25 June	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session • Adoption of the report of the first regular session 2012 **UNDP SEGMENT** STATEMENT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR
		2	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR • Annual report of the Administrator: performance and results for 2011 • Report of UNDP on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2011 • Statistical annex
	3 – 5 p.m.	2	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR (cont'd)
		3	FUNDING COMMITMENTS TO UNDP • Status of regular funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2012 and onwards
	5 – 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Tuesday, 26 June	10 – 11:30 a.m.	6	UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND • Report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2011
	11:30 a.m.– 1 p.m.	7	UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS • Annual report of the Administrator
	3 – 6 p.m.		**JOINT SEGMENT**
		12	INTERNAL AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT • Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and oversight activities, and management responses • Disclosure of internal audit reports
		13	REPORTS OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS ETHICS OFFICES • Reports of the Ethics Offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on activities for 2011
Wednesday, 27 June	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		**UNFPA SEGMENT** STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
		8	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • Report of the Executive Director for 2011: Progress in implementing the strategic plan, 2008-2013 • Statistical and financial review, 2011 • UNFPA report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2011
	3 – 5 p.m.	8	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (cont'd)
		9	FUNDING COMMITMENTS TO UNFPA • Report on contributions by Member States and others to UNFPA and revenue projections for 2012 and future years
	5 – 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*

Thursday, 28 June	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	10	UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Draft country programme documents and extensions of country programmes
	3 – 5 p.m.		**UNOPS SEGMENT** STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
		11	• Annual report of the Executive Director
	5 - 6 p.m.		**UNDP segment (cont'd)**
		4	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT • Update on Human Development Report consultations (GA resolution 57/264)
Friday, 29 June	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	5	UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Draft country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes
	3 – 5 p.m.		*Informal consultations on the UNDP annual report on evaluation and on the UNFPA biennial report on evaluation*
	5 – 6 p.m.	14	OTHER MATTERS • Adoption of decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Adoption of the tentative workplan for the second regular session 2012 • Closing of the session